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TOWING REVISIONS



**Utah Code Sections Affected:** 

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26
      AMENDS:
             41-1a-102, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapters 166 and 424
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             41-1a-1101, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 29
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             41-6a-1406, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2017, Chapters 100 and 261
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             72-9-102, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2017, Chapter 96
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             72-9-603, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2017, Chapter 298
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             72-9-604, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2017, Chapter 298
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      ENACTS:
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             72-9-607, Utah Code Annotated 1953
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      Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:
             Section 1. Section 41-1a-102 is amended to read:
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             41-1a-102. Definitions.
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             As used in this chapter:
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             (1) "Actual miles" means the actual distance a vehicle has traveled while in operation.
             (2) "Actual weight" means the actual unladen weight of a vehicle or combination of
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      vehicles as operated and certified to by a weighmaster.
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             (3) "All-terrain type I vehicle" means the same as that term is defined in Section
      41-22-2.
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             (4) "All-terrain type II vehicle" means the same as that term is defined in Section
      41-22-2.
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             (5) "All-terrain type III vehicle" means the same as that term is defined in Section
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      41-22-2.
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             (6) "Alternative fuel vehicle" means:
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             (a) an electric motor vehicle;
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             (b) a hybrid electric motor vehicle;
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             (c) a plug-in hybrid electric motor vehicle; or
             (d) a motor vehicle powered by a fuel other than:
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             (i) motor fuel;
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             (ii) diesel fuel;
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             (iii) natural gas; or
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57	(iv) propane.
58	(7) "Amateur radio operator" means any person licensed by the Federal
59	Communications Commission to engage in private and experimental two-way radio operation
60	on the amateur band radio frequencies.
61	(8) "Autocycle" means the same as that term is defined in Section 53-3-102.
62	(9) "Branded title" means a title certificate that is labeled:
63	(a) rebuilt and restored to operation;
64	(b) flooded and restored to operation; or
65	(c) not restored to operation.
66	(10) "Camper" means any structure designed, used, and maintained primarily to be
67	mounted on or affixed to a motor vehicle that contains a floor and is designed to provide a
68	mobile dwelling, sleeping place, commercial space, or facilities for human habitation or for
69	camping.
70	(11) "Certificate of title" means a document issued by a jurisdiction to establish a
71	record of ownership between an identified owner and the described vehicle, vessel, or outboard
72	motor.
73	(12) "Certified scale weigh ticket" means a weigh ticket that has been issued by a
74	weighmaster.
75	(13) "Commercial vehicle" means a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer used or
76	maintained for the transportation of persons or property that operates:
77	(a) as a carrier for hire, compensation, or profit; or
78	(b) as a carrier to transport the vehicle owner's goods or property in furtherance of the
79	owner's commercial enterprise.
80	(14) "Commission" means the State Tax Commission.
81	(15) "Consumer price index" means the same as that term is defined in Section
82	59-13-102.
83	(16) "Dealer" means a person engaged or licensed to engage in the business of buying,

- (16) "Dealer" means a person engaged or licensed to engage in the business of buying, selling, or exchanging new or used vehicles, vessels, or outboard motors either outright or on conditional sale, bailment, lease, chattel mortgage, or otherwise or who has an established place of business for the sale, lease, trade, or display of vehicles, vessels, or outboard motors.
  - (17) "Diesel fuel" means the same as that term is defined in Section 59-13-102.

- (18) "Division" means the Motor Vehicle Division of the commission, created in Section 41-1a-106.
  - (19) "Electric motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle that is powered solely by an electric motor drawing current from a rechargeable energy storage system.
  - (20) "Essential parts" means all integral and body parts of a vehicle of a type required to be registered in this state, the removal, alteration, or substitution of which would tend to conceal the identity of the vehicle or substantially alter its appearance, model, type, or mode of operation.
  - (21) "Farm tractor" means every motor vehicle designed and used primarily as a farm implement for drawing plows, mowing machines, and other implements of husbandry.
  - (22) (a) "Farm truck" means a truck used by the owner or operator of a farm solely for the owner's or operator's own use in the transportation of:
  - (i) farm products, including livestock and its products, poultry and its products, floricultural and horticultural products;
  - (ii) farm supplies, including tile, fence, and every other thing or commodity used in agricultural, floricultural, horticultural, livestock, and poultry production; and
  - (iii) livestock, poultry, and other animals and things used for breeding, feeding, or other purposes connected with the operation of a farm.
  - (b) "Farm truck" does not include the operation of trucks by commercial processors of agricultural products.
    - (23) "Fleet" means one or more commercial vehicles.
  - (24) "Foreign vehicle" means a vehicle of a type required to be registered, brought into this state from another state, territory, or country other than in the ordinary course of business by or through a manufacturer or dealer, and not registered in this state.
  - (25) "Gross laden weight" means the actual weight of a vehicle or combination of vehicles, equipped for operation, to which shall be added the maximum load to be carried.
  - (26) "Highway" or "street" means the entire width between property lines of every way or place of whatever nature when any part of it is open to the public, as a matter of right, for purposes of vehicular traffic.
- 117 (27) "Hybrid electric motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle that draws propulsion 118 energy from onboard sources of stored energy that are both:

- (a) an internal combustion engine or heat engine using consumable fuel; and
- (b) a rechargeable energy storage system where energy for the storage system comes solely from sources onboard the vehicle.
  - (28) (a) "Identification number" means the identifying number assigned by the manufacturer or by the division for the purpose of identifying the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor.
  - (b) "Identification number" includes a vehicle identification number, state assigned identification number, hull identification number, and motor serial number.
  - (29) "Implement of husbandry" means every vehicle designed or adapted and used exclusively for an agricultural operation and only incidentally operated or moved upon the highways.
  - (30) (a) "In-state miles" means the total number of miles operated in this state during the preceding year by fleet power units.
  - (b) If fleets are composed entirely of trailers or semitrailers, "in-state miles" means the total number of miles that those vehicles were towed on Utah highways during the preceding year.
  - (31) "Interstate vehicle" means any commercial vehicle operated in more than one state, province, territory, or possession of the United States or foreign country.
  - (32) "Jurisdiction" means a state, district, province, political subdivision, territory, or possession of the United States or any foreign country.
    - (33) "Lienholder" means a person with a security interest in particular property.
  - (34) "Manufactured home" means a transportable factory built housing unit constructed on or after June 15, 1976, according to the Federal Home Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 (HUD Code), in one or more sections, which, in the traveling mode, is eight body feet or more in width or 40 body feet or more in length, or when erected on site, is 400 or more square feet, and which is built on a permanent chassis and designed to be used as a dwelling with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities, and includes the plumbing, heating, air-conditioning, and electrical systems.
  - (35) "Manufacturer" means a person engaged in the business of constructing, manufacturing, assembling, producing, or importing new or unused vehicles, vessels, or outboard motors for the purpose of sale or trade.

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navigate a vessel.

- 150 (36) "Mobile home" means a transportable factory built housing unit built prior to June 151 15, 1976, in accordance with a state mobile home code which existed prior to the Federal 152 Manufactured Housing and Safety Standards Act (HUD Code). 153 (37) "Motor fuel" means the same as that term is defined in Section 59-13-102. 154 (38) (a) "Motor vehicle" means a self-propelled vehicle intended primarily for use and 155 operation on the highways. 156 (b) "Motor vehicle" does not include an off-highway vehicle. 157 (39) "Motorboat" means the same as that term is defined in Section 73-18-2. 158 (40) "Motorcycle" means: (a) a motor vehicle having a saddle for the use of the rider and designed to travel on not 159 160 more than three wheels in contact with the ground; or 161 (b) an autocycle. 162 (41) "Natural gas" means a fuel of which the primary constituent is methane. (42) (a) "Nonresident" means a person who is not a resident of this state as defined by 163 164 Section 41-1a-202, and who does not engage in intrastate business within this state and does 165 not operate in that business any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer within this state. 166 (b) A person who engages in intrastate business within this state and operates in that 167 business any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer in this state or who, even though engaging in 168 interstate commerce, maintains any vehicle in this state as the home station of that vehicle is 169 considered a resident of this state, insofar as that vehicle is concerned in administering this 170 chapter. 171 (43) "Odometer" means a device for measuring and recording the actual distance a 172 vehicle travels while in operation, but does not include any auxiliary odometer designed to be 173 periodically reset. 174 (44) "Off-highway implement of husbandry" means the same as that term is defined in 175 Section 41-22-2.
  - (47) "Outboard motor" means a detachable self-contained propulsion unit, excluding fuel supply, used to propel a vessel.

(46) "Operate" means to drive or be in actual physical control of a vehicle or to

(45) "Off-highway vehicle" means the same as that term is defined in Section 41-22-2.

- (48) (a) "Owner" means a person, other than a lienholder, holding title to a vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor whether or not the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor is subject to a security interest.
- (b) If a vehicle is the subject of an agreement for the conditional sale or installment sale or mortgage of the vehicle with the right of purchase upon performance of the conditions stated in the agreement and with an immediate right of possession vested in the conditional vendee or mortgagor, or if the vehicle is the subject of a security agreement, then the conditional vendee, mortgagor, or debtor is considered the owner for the purposes of this chapter.
- (c) If a vehicle is the subject of an agreement to lease, the lessor is considered the owner until the lessee exercises the lessee's option to purchase the vehicle.
  - (49) "Park model recreational vehicle" means a unit that:
- (a) is designed and marketed as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use;
  - (b) is not permanently affixed to real property for use as a permanent dwelling;
  - (c) requires a special highway movement permit for transit; and
- (d) is built on a single chassis mounted on wheels with a gross trailer area not exceeding 400 square feet in the setup mode.
- (50) "Personalized license plate" means a license plate that has displayed on it a combination of letters, numbers, or both as requested by the owner of the vehicle and assigned to the vehicle by the division.
- (51) (a) "Pickup truck" means a two-axle motor vehicle with motive power manufactured, remanufactured, or materially altered to provide an open cargo area.
- (b) "Pickup truck" includes motor vehicles with the open cargo area covered with a camper, camper shell, tarp, removable top, or similar structure.
- (52) "Plug-in hybrid electric motor vehicle" means a hybrid electric motor vehicle that has the capability to charge the battery or batteries used for vehicle propulsion from an off-vehicle electric source, such that the off-vehicle source cannot be connected to the vehicle while the vehicle is in motion.
- (53) "Pneumatic tire" means every tire in which compressed air is designed to support the load.

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- (54) "Preceding year" means a period of 12 consecutive months fixed by the division that is within 16 months immediately preceding the commencement of the registration or license year in which proportional registration is sought. The division in fixing the period shall conform it to the terms, conditions, and requirements of any applicable agreement or arrangement for the proportional registration of vehicles.
- (55) "Public garage" means every building or other place where vehicles or vessels are kept and stored and where a charge is made for the storage and keeping of vehicles and vessels.
- (56) "Receipt of surrender of ownership documents" means the receipt of surrender of ownership documents described in Section 41-1a-503.
- (57) "Reconstructed vehicle" means every vehicle of a type required to be registered in this state that is materially altered from its original construction by the removal, addition, or substitution of essential parts, new or used.
- 224 (58) "Recreational vehicle" means the same as that term is defined in Section 225 13-14-102.
  - (59) "Registration" means a document issued by a jurisdiction that allows operation of a vehicle or vessel on the highways or waters of this state for the time period for which the registration is valid and that is evidence of compliance with the registration requirements of the jurisdiction.
  - (60) (a) "Registration year" means a 12 consecutive month period commencing with the completion of all applicable registration criteria.
  - (b) For administration of a multistate agreement for proportional registration the division may prescribe a different 12-month period.
  - (61) "Repair or replacement" means the restoration of vehicles, vessels, or outboard motors to a sound working condition by substituting any inoperative part of the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor, or by correcting the inoperative part.
    - (62) "Replica vehicle" means:
    - (a) a street rod that meets the requirements under Subsection 41-21-1(3)(a)(i)(B); or
- 239 (b) a custom vehicle that meets the requirements under Subsection 240 41-6a-1507(1)(a)(i)(B).
- 241 (63) "Road tractor" means every motor vehicle designed and used for drawing other 242 vehicles and constructed so it does not carry any load either independently or any part of the

243 weight of a vehicle or load that is drawn. 244 (64) "Sailboat" means the same as that term is defined in Section 73-18-2. 245 (65) "Security interest" means an interest that is reserved or created by a security 246 agreement to secure the payment or performance of an obligation and that is valid against third 247 parties. 248 (66) "Semitrailer" means every vehicle without motive power designed for carrying 249 persons or property and for being drawn by a motor vehicle and constructed so that some part 250 of its weight and its load rests or is carried by another vehicle. 251 (67) "Special group license plate" means a type of license plate designed for a 252 particular group of people or a license plate authorized and issued by the division in accordance 253 with Section 41-1a-418. (68) (a) "Special interest vehicle" means a vehicle used for general transportation 254 255 purposes and that is: 256 (i) 20 years or older from the current year; or 257 (ii) a make or model of motor vehicle recognized by the division director as having 258 unique interest or historic value. 259 (b) In making a determination under Subsection (68)(a), the division director shall give 260 special consideration to: 261 (i) a make of motor vehicle that is no longer manufactured; 262 (ii) a make or model of motor vehicle produced in limited or token quantities; 263 (iii) a make or model of motor vehicle produced as an experimental vehicle or one 264 designed exclusively for educational purposes or museum display; or 265 (iv) a motor vehicle of any age or make that has not been substantially altered or 266 modified from original specifications of the manufacturer and because of its significance is 267 being collected, preserved, restored, maintained, or operated by a collector or hobbyist as a 268 leisure pursuit. 269 (69) (a) "Special mobile equipment" means every vehicle: 270 (i) not designed or used primarily for the transportation of persons or property; 271 (ii) not designed to operate in traffic; and 272 (iii) only incidentally operated or moved over the highways.

(b) "Special mobile equipment" includes:

self-propelled motor vehicle.

274	(i) farm tractors;
275	(ii) off-road motorized construction or maintenance equipment including backhoes,
276	bulldozers, compactors, graders, loaders, road rollers, tractors, and trenchers; and
277	(iii) ditch-digging apparatus.
278	(c) "Special mobile equipment" does not include a commercial vehicle as defined
279	under Section 72-9-102.
280	(70) "Specially constructed vehicle" means every vehicle of a type required to be
281	registered in this state, not originally constructed under a distinctive name, make, model, or
282	type by a generally recognized manufacturer of vehicles, and not materially altered from its
283	original construction.
284	(71) "State impound yard" means a yard for the storage of a vehicle, vessel, or outboard
285	motor that meets the requirements of rules made by the commission pursuant to Subsection
286	<u>41-1a-1101(5).</u>
287	[(71)] (72) "Title" means the right to or ownership of a vehicle, vessel, or outboard
288	motor.
289	[(72)] $(73)$ (a) "Total fleet miles" means the total number of miles operated in all
290	jurisdictions during the preceding year by power units.
291	(b) If fleets are composed entirely of trailers or semitrailers, "total fleet miles" means
292	the number of miles that those vehicles were towed on the highways of all jurisdictions during
293	the preceding year.
294	[(73)] (74) "Trailer" means a vehicle without motive power designed for carrying
295	persons or property and for being drawn by a motor vehicle and constructed so that no part of
296	its weight rests upon the towing vehicle.
297	[(74)] (75) "Transferee" means a person to whom the ownership of property is
298	conveyed by sale, gift, or any other means except by the creation of a security interest.
299	[(75)] (76) "Transferor" means a person who transfers the person's ownership in
300	property by sale, gift, or any other means except by creation of a security interest.
301	[(76)] (77) "Travel trailer," "camping trailer," or "fifth wheel trailer" means a portable
302	vehicle without motive power, designed as a temporary dwelling for travel, recreational, or
303	vacation use that does not require a special highway movement permit when drawn by a

305	[(77)] (78) "Truck tractor" means a motor vehicle designed and used primarily for
306	drawing other vehicles and not constructed to carry a load other than a part of the weight of the
307	vehicle and load that is drawn.
308	[(78)] (79) "Vehicle" includes a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, off-highway vehicle
309	camper, park model recreational vehicle, manufactured home, and mobile home.
310	[(79)] (80) "Vessel" means the same as that term is defined in Section 73-18-2.
311	[(80)] (81) "Vintage vehicle" means the same as that term is defined in Section
312	41-21-1.
313	[(81)] (82) "Waters of this state" means the same as that term is defined in Section
314	73-18-2.
315	[(82)] (83) "Weighmaster" means a person, association of persons, or corporation
316	permitted to weigh vehicles under this chapter.
317	Section 2. Section 41-1a-1101 is amended to read:
318	41-1a-1101. Seizure Circumstances where permitted Impound lot standards.
319	(1) The division or any peace officer, without a warrant, may seize and take possession
320	of any vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor:
321	(a) that the division or the peace officer has reason to believe has been stolen;
322	(b) on which any identification number has been defaced, altered, or obliterated;
323	(c) that has been abandoned in accordance with Section 41-6a-1408;
324	(d) for which the applicant has written a check for registration or title fees that has not
325	been honored by the applicant's bank and that is not paid within 30 days;
326	(e) that is placed on the water with improper registration;
327	(f) that is being operated on a highway:
328	(i) with registration that has been expired for more than three months;
329	(ii) having never been properly registered by the current owner; or
330	(iii) with registration that is suspended or revoked; or
331	(g) (i) that the division or the peace officer has reason to believe has been involved in
332	an accident described in Section 41-6a-401, 41-6a-401.3, or 41-6a-401.5; and
333	(ii) whose operator did not remain at the scene of the accident until the operator
334	fulfilled the requirements described in Section 41-6a-401 or 41-6a-401.7.
335	(2) (a) Subject to the restriction in Subsection (2)(b), the division or any peace officer,

without a warrant:

- (i) shall seize and take possession of any vehicle that is being operated on a highway without owner's or operator's security in effect for the vehicle as required under Section 41-12a-301 and the vehicle was involved in an accident; or
- (ii) may seize and take possession of any vehicle that is being operated on a highway without owner's or operator's security in effect for the vehicle as required under Section 41-12a-301 after the division or any peace officer makes a reasonable determination whether the vehicle would:
- (A) present a public safety concern to the operator or any of the occupants in the vehicle; or
- (B) prevent the division or the peace officer from addressing other public safety considerations.
- (b) The division or any peace officer may not seize and take possession of a vehicle under Subsection (2)(a):
- (i) if the operator of the vehicle is not carrying evidence of owner's or operator's security as defined in Section 41-12a-303.2 in the vehicle unless the division or peace officer verifies that owner's or operator's security is not in effect for the vehicle through the Uninsured Motorist Identification Database created in accordance with Section 41-12a-803; or
- (ii) if the operator of the vehicle is carrying evidence of owner's or operator's security as defined in Section 41-12a-303.2 in the vehicle and the Uninsured Motorist Identification Database created in accordance with Section 41-12a-803 indicates that the owner's or operator's security is not in effect for the vehicle, unless the division or a peace officer makes a reasonable attempt to independently verify that owner's or operator's security is not in effect for the vehicle.
- (3) If necessary for the transportation of a seized vessel, the vessel's trailer may be seized to transport and store the vessel.
- (4) Any peace officer seizing or taking possession of a vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor under this section shall comply with the provisions of Section 41-6a-1406.
- (5) (a) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the commission shall make rules setting standards for public garages, impound lots, and impound yards that may be used by peace officers and the division.

367	(b) The standards shall be equitable, reasonable, and unrestrictive as to the number of
368	public garages, impound lots, or impound yards per geographical area.
369	(c) A crusher, dismantler, or salvage dealer may not operate as a state impound yard
370	unless the crusher, dismantler, or salvage dealer meets all of the requirements for a state
371	impound yard set forth in this section and rules made in accordance with Subsection (5)(a).
372	(d) (i) Rules made by the commission shall include a requirement that a state impound
373	yard have opaque fencing on any side of the state impound yard that has frontage with a
374	highway.
375	(ii) The opaque fencing described in Subsection (5)(d)(i) may be opaque chain link
376	fencing.
377	(6) (a) Except as provided under Subsection (6)(b), a person may not operate or allow
378	to be operated a vehicle stored in a public garage, impound lot, or impound yard regulated
379	under this part without prior written permission of the owner of the vehicle.
380	(b) Incidental and necessary operation of a vehicle to move the vehicle from one
381	parking space to another within the facility and that is necessary for the normal management of
382	the facility is not prohibited under Subsection (6)(a).
383	(7) A person who violates the provisions of Subsection (6) is guilty of a class C
384	misdemeanor.
385	(8) The division or the peace officer who seizes a vehicle shall record the mileage
386	shown on the vehicle's odometer at the time of seizure, if:
387	(a) the vehicle is equipped with an odometer; and
388	(b) the odometer reading is accessible to the division or the peace officer.
389	Section 3. Section 41-6a-1406 is amended to read:
390	41-6a-1406. Removal and impoundment of vehicles Reporting and notification
391	requirements Administrative impound fee Refunds Possessory lien Rulemaking.
392	(1) If a vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor is removed or impounded as provided under
393	Section 41-1a-1101, 41-6a-527, 41-6a-1405, 41-6a-1408, or 73-18-20.1 by an order of a peace
394	officer or by an order of a person acting on behalf of a law enforcement agency or highway
395	authority, the removal or impoundment of the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor shall be at the
396	expense of the owner.
397	(2) The vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor under Subsection (1) shall be removed or

398	impounded to[:(a)] a state impound yard[; or].
399	[(b) if none, a garage, docking area, or other place of safety.]
400	(3) The peace officer may move a vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor or cause it to be
401	removed by a tow truck motor carrier that meets standards established:
402	(a) under Title 72, Chapter 9, Motor Carrier Safety Act; and
403	(b) by the department under Subsection (10).
404	(4) (a) Immediately after the removal of the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor, a report
405	of the removal shall be sent to the Motor Vehicle Division by:
406	(i) the peace officer or agency by whom the peace officer is employed; and
407	(ii) the tow truck operator or the tow truck motor carrier by whom the tow truck
408	operator is employed.
409	(b) The report shall be in a form specified by the Motor Vehicle Division and shall
410	include:
411	(i) the operator's name, if known;
412	(ii) a description of the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor;
413	(iii) the vehicle identification number or vessel or outboard motor identification
414	number;
415	(iv) the license number, temporary permit number, or other identification number
416	issued by a state agency;
417	(v) the date, time, and place of impoundment;
418	(vi) the reason for removal or impoundment;
419	(vii) the name of the tow truck motor carrier who removed the vehicle, vessel, or
420	outboard motor; and
421	(viii) the place where the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor is stored.
422	(c) Until the tow truck operator or tow truck motor carrier reports the removal as
423	required under this Subsection (4), a tow truck motor carrier or impound yard may not:
424	(i) collect any fee associated with the removal; and
425	(ii) begin charging storage fees.
426	(5) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (5)(e) and upon receipt of the report, the
427	Motor Vehicle Division shall give notice, in the manner described in Section 41-1a-114, to the
428	following parties with an interest in the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor, as applicable:

- 429 (i) the registered owner;
- 430 (ii) any lien holder; or
- (iii) a dealer, as defined in Section 41-1a-102, if the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor is currently operating under a temporary permit issued by the dealer, as described in Section 41-3-302.
  - (b) The notice shall:

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- (i) state the date, time, and place of removal, the name, if applicable, of the person operating the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor at the time of removal, the reason for removal, and the place where the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor is stored;
- (ii) state that the registered owner is responsible for payment of towing, impound, and storage fees charged against the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor;
- (iii) state the conditions that must be satisfied before the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor is released; and
- (iv) inform the parties described in Subsection (5)(a) of the division's intent to sell the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor, if, within 30 days after the day of the removal or impoundment under this section, one of the parties fails to make a claim for release of the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor.
- (c) Except as provided in Subsection (5)(e) and if the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor is not registered in this state, the Motor Vehicle Division shall make a reasonable effort to notify the parties described in Subsection (5)(a) of the removal and the place where the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor is stored.
- (d) The Motor Vehicle Division shall forward a copy of the notice to the place where the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor is stored.
- (e) The Motor Vehicle Division is not required to give notice under this Subsection (5) if a report was received by a tow truck operator or tow truck motor carrier reporting a tow truck service in accordance with Subsection 72-9-603(1)(a)(i).
- (6) (a) The vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor shall be released after a party described in Subsection (5)(a):
- (i) makes a claim for release of the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor at any office of the State Tax Commission;
  - (ii) presents identification sufficient to prove ownership of the impounded vehicle,

460	vessel, or outboard motor
461	(iii) completes the

- (iii) completes the registration, if needed, and pays the appropriate fees;
- 462 (iv) if the impoundment was made under Section 41-6a-527, pays an administrative 463 impound fee of \$400; and
  - (v) pays all towing and storage fees to the place where the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor is stored.
  - (b) (i) Twenty-nine dollars of the administrative impound fee assessed under Subsection (6)(a)(iv) shall be dedicated credits to the Motor Vehicle Division;
  - (ii) \$147 of the administrative impound fee assessed under Subsection (6)(a)(iv) shall be deposited in the Department of Public Safety Restricted Account created in Section 53-3-106;
  - (iii) \$20 of the administrative impound fee assessed under Subsection (6)(a)(iv) shall be deposited in the Spinal Cord and Brain Injury Rehabilitation Fund; and
  - (iv) the remainder of the administrative impound fee assessed under Subsection (6)(a)(iv) shall be deposited in the General Fund.
  - (c) The administrative impound fee assessed under Subsection (6)(a)(iv) shall be waived or refunded by the State Tax Commission if the registered owner, lien holder, or owner's agent presents written evidence to the State Tax Commission that:
  - (i) the Driver License Division determined that the arrested person's driver license should not be suspended or revoked under Section 53-3-223 or 41-6a-521 as shown by a letter or other report from the Driver License Division presented within 180 days after the day on which the Driver License Division mailed the final notification; or
  - (ii) the vehicle was stolen at the time of the impoundment as shown by a copy of the stolen vehicle report presented within 180 days after the day of the impoundment.
  - (d) A tow truck operator, a tow truck motor carrier, and an impound yard shall accept payment by cash and debit or credit card for a removal or impoundment under Subsection (1) or any service rendered, performed, or supplied in connection with a removal or impoundment under Subsection (1).
  - (e) The owner of an impounded vehicle may not be charged a fee for the storage of the impounded vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor if:
    - (i) the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor is being held as evidence; and

491	(ii) the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor is not being released to a party described in
492	Subsection 5(a), even if the party satisfies the requirements to release the vehicle, vessel, or
493	outboard motor under this Subsection (6).
494	(7) (a) An impounded vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor not claimed by a party
495	described in Subsection (5)(a) within the time prescribed by Section 41-1a-1103 shall be sold
496	in accordance with that section and the proceeds, if any, shall be disposed of as provided under
497	Section 41-1a-1104.
498	(b) The date of impoundment is considered the date of seizure for computing the time
499	period provided under Section 41-1a-1103.
500	(8) A party described in Subsection (5)(a) that pays all fees and charges incurred in the
501	impoundment of the owner's vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor has a cause of action for all the
502	fees and charges, together with damages, court costs, and attorney fees, against the operator of
503	the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor whose actions caused the removal or impoundment.
504	(9) Towing, impound fees, and storage fees are a possessory lien on the vehicle, vessel,
505	or outboard motor.
506	(10) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act,
507	the department shall make rules setting the performance standards for towing companies to be
508	used by the department.
509	(11) (a) The Motor Vehicle Division may specify that a report required under
510	Subsection (4) be submitted in electronic form utilizing a database for submission, storage, and
511	retrieval of the information.
512	(b) (i) Unless otherwise provided by statute, the Motor Vehicle Division or the
513	administrator of the database may adopt a schedule of fees assessed for utilizing the database.
514	(ii) The fees under this Subsection (11)(b) shall:
515	(A) be reasonable and fair; and
516	(B) reflect the cost of administering the database.
517	Section 4. Section <b>72-9-102</b> is amended to read:
518	72-9-102. Definitions.
519	As used in this chapter:
520	Ĥ→ [(1) (a) "Central office" means a central place of business of a tow truck motor carrier

located within a 10 mile radius of each state impound yard owned or operated by the tow truck

	H→ [motor carrier.
	(b) "Central office" does not include a remote state impound yard owned or operated
	by the tow truck motor carrier.
	(i) an interstate commercial vehicle; and
	(ii) an intrastate commercial vehicle.
	(b) "Commercial vehicle" does not include the following vehicles for purposes of this
(	chapter:
	(i) equipment owned and operated by the United States Department of Defense when
Ċ	lriven by any active duty military personnel and members of the reserves and national guard on
8	active duty including personnel on full-time national guard duty, personnel on part-time
t	raining, and national guard military technicians and civilians who are required to wear military
	uniforms and are subject to the code of military justice;
	(ii) firefighting and emergency vehicles, operated by emergency personnel, not
	including commercial tow trucks;
	(iii) recreational vehicles that are driven solely as family or personal conveyances for
	noncommercial purposes; or
	(iv) vehicles owned by the state or a local government.
	$\hat{H} \rightarrow [f]$ (2) $[f \rightarrow \hat{H}] \leftarrow \hat{H}$ "Interstate commercial vehicle" means a self-propelled or towed
	motor vehicle
	used on a highway in interstate commerce to transport passengers or property if the vehicle:
	(a) has a gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination weight rating of 10,001 or
	more pounds;
	(b) is designed or used to transport more than eight passengers, including the driver, for
	compensation;
	(c) is designed or used to transport more than 15 passengers, including the driver, and
	is not used to transport passengers for compensation; or
	(d) (i) is used to transport materials designated as hazardous in accordance with 49
	U.S.C. Sec. 5103; and
	(ii) is required to be placarded in accordance with regulations under 49 C.F.R., Subtitle
	B, Chapter I, Subchapter C.
	$\hat{H} \rightarrow [f]$ (3) $[f] \leftarrow \hat{H}$ "Intrastate commercial vehicle" means a motor vehicle, vehicle,
	trailer, or

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553 semitrailer used or maintained for business, compensation, or profit to transport passengers or 554 property on a highway only within the boundaries of this state if the commercial vehicle: 555 (a) has a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination weight rating 556 of 10,001 or more pounds; 557 (b) is designed to transport more than 15 passengers, including the driver; or 558 (c) is used in the transportation of hazardous materials and is required to be placarded 559 in accordance with 49 C.F.R. Part 172, Subpart F. 560  $\hat{H} \rightarrow [f]$  (4) [f] (5)  $\leftarrow \hat{H}$  "Motor carrier" means a person engaged in or transacting the 560a business of 561 transporting passengers, freight, merchandise, or other property by a commercial vehicle on a 562 highway within this state and includes a tow truck business. 563  $\hat{H} \rightarrow [(6)]$  (5)  $\leftarrow \hat{H}$  "Owner" as pertaining to a vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor, means the 563a same as 564 that term is defined in Section 41-1a-102.  $\hat{H} \rightarrow [(7)]$  (6)  $\leftarrow \hat{H}$  "Property owner" means the owner or lessee of real property. 565 566  $\hat{H} \rightarrow [(8)]$  (7)  $\leftarrow \hat{H}$  "State impound yard" means the same as that term is defined in Section 566a 41-1a-102. [5]  $\hat{H} \rightarrow [9]$  (8)  $\leftarrow \hat{H}$  "Tow truck" means a motor vehicle constructed, designed, altered, or 567 568 equipped primarily for the purpose of towing or removing damaged, disabled, abandoned, 569 seized, or impounded vehicles from a highway or other place by means of a crane, hoist, tow 570 bar, tow line, dolly, tilt bed, or other means.  $\hat{H} \rightarrow [(10)]$  (9)  $\leftarrow \hat{H}$  "Tow truck motor carrier" means a motor carrier that is engaged in or 571 571a transacting 572 business for tow truck services.  $\hat{H} \rightarrow [(11)]$  (10)  $\leftarrow \hat{H}$  "Tow truck operator" means an individual that performs operations 573 573a related to a 574 tow truck service as an employee or as an independent contractor on behalf of a tow truck 575 motor carrier. [(6)]  $\hat{H} \rightarrow [(12)]$  (11)  $\leftarrow \hat{H}$  "Tow truck service" means the functions and any ancillary 576 576a operations associated with recovering, removing, and towing a vehicle and its load from a highway or 577 578 other place by means of a tow truck. [(7)]  $\hat{H} \rightarrow [(13)]$  (12)  $\leftarrow \hat{H}$  "Transportation" means the actual movement of property or 579 579a passengers by 580 motor vehicle, including loading, unloading, and any ancillary service provided by the motor

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carrier in connection with movement by motor vehicle, which is performed by or on behalf of

the motor carrier, its employees or agents, or under the authority of the motor carrier, its

employees or agents, or under the apparent authority and with the knowledge of the motor

584	carrier.
585	Section 5. Section <b>72-9-603</b> is amended to read:
586	72-9-603. Towing notice requirements Cost responsibilities Abandoned
587	vehicle title restrictions Rules for maximum rates and certification.
588	(1) Except for a tow truck service that was ordered by a peace officer, or a person
589	acting on behalf of a law enforcement agency, or a highway authority, after performing a tow
590	truck service that is being done without the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor owner's
591	knowledge, the tow truck operator or the tow truck motor carrier shall:
592	(a) immediately upon arriving at the place of storage or impound of the vehicle, vessel,
593	or outboard motor:
594	(i) send a report of the removal to the Motor Vehicle Division that complies with the
595	requirements of Subsection 41-6a-1406(4)(b); and
596	(ii) contact the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the area where the
597	vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor was picked up and notify the agency of the:
598	(A) location of the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor;
599	(B) date, time, and location from which the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor was
600	removed;
601	(C) reasons for the removal of the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor;
602	(D) person who requested the removal of the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor; and
603	(E) Ĥ→ [vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor's description, including [its] the vehicle's
604	identification number and license number or other identification number issued by a state
605	ageney;] description, including the identification number, license number, or other
605a	identification number issued by a state agency, of the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor; ←Ĥ
606	(b) within two business days of performing the tow truck service under Subsection
607	(1)(a), send a certified letter to the last-known address of each party described in Subsection
608	41-6a-1406(5)(a) with an interest in the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor obtained from the
609	Motor Vehicle Division or, if the person has actual knowledge of the party's address, to the
610	current address, notifying the party of the:
611	(i) location of the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor;
612	(ii) date, time, and location from which the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor was
613	removed;
614	(iii) reasons for the removal of the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor;

615	(iv) person who requested the removal of the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor;
616	(v) a description, including its identification number and license number or other
617	identification number issued by a state agency; and
618	(vi) costs and procedures to retrieve the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor; and
619	(c) upon initial contact with the owner whose vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor was
620	removed, provide the owner with a copy of the Utah Consumer Bill of Rights Regarding
621	Towing established by the department in Subsection (7)(e).
622	(2) Until the tow truck operator or tow truck motor carrier reports the removal as
623	required under Subsection (1)(a), a tow truck operator, tow truck motor carrier, or impound
624	yard may not:
625	(i) collect any fee associated with the removal; or
626	(ii) begin charging storage fees.
627	(b) (i) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(c), a tow truck operator or tow truck motor
628	carrier may not perform a tow truck service without the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor
629	owner's or a lien holder's knowledge at either of the following locations without signage that
630	meets the requirements of Subsection (2)(b)(ii):
631	(A) a mobile home park as defined in Section 57-16-3; or
632	(B) a multifamily dwelling of more than eight units.
633	(ii) Signage under Subsection (2)(b)(i) shall display:
634	(A) where parking is subject to towing; and
635	(B) (I) the Internet website address that provides access to towing database information
636	in accordance with Section 41-6a-1406; or
637	(II) one of the following:
638	(Aa) the name and phone number of the tow truck operator or tow truck motor carrier
639	that performs a tow truck service for the locations listed under Subsection (2)(b)(i); or
640	(Bb) the name of the mobile home park or multifamily dwelling and the phone number
641	of the mobile home park or multifamily dwelling manager or management office that
642	authorized the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor to be towed.
643	(c) Signage is not required under Subsection (2)(b) for parking in a location:
644	(i) that is prohibited by law; or
645	(ii) if it is reasonably apparent that the location is not open to parking.

- (d) Nothing in Subsection (2)(b) restricts the ability of a mobile home park as defined
   in Section 57-16-3 or a multifamily dwelling from instituting and enforcing regulations on
   parking.
   (3) The party described in Subsection 41-6a-1406(5)(a) with an interest in a vehicle,
  - (3) The party described in Subsection 41-6a-1406(5)(a) with an interest in a vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor lawfully removed is only responsible for paying:
    - (a) the tow truck service and storage fees set in accordance with Subsection (7); and
  - (b) the administrative impound fee set in Section 41-6a-1406, if applicable.
    - (4) (a) The fees under Subsection (3) are a possessory lien on the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor and any nonlife essential items contained in the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor that are owned by the owner of the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor until paid.
    - (b) The tow truck operator or tow truck motor carrier shall securely store the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor and items described in Subsection (4)(a) in an approved state impound yard until a party described in Subsection 41-6a-1406(5)(a) with an interest in the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor:
      - (i) pays the fees described in Subsection (3); and
    - (ii) removes the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor from the [secure storage facility] state impound yard.
    - (5) (a) A vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor shall be considered abandoned if a party described in Subsection 41-6a-1406(5)(a) with an interest in the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor does not, within 30 days after notice has been sent under Subsection (1)(b):
      - (i) pay the fees described in Subsection (3); and
      - (ii) remove the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor from the secure storage facility.
    - (b) A person may not request a transfer of title to an abandoned vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor until at least 30 days after notice has been sent under Subsection (1)(b).
    - (6) (a) A tow truck motor carrier or impound yard shall clearly and conspicuously post and disclose all its current fees, rates, and acceptable forms of payment for tow truck service and storage of a vehicle in accordance with rules established under Subsection (7).
    - (b) A tow truck operator, a tow truck motor carrier, and an impound yard shall accept payment by cash and debit or credit card for a tow truck service under Subsection (1) or any service rendered, performed, or supplied in connection with a tow truck service under Subsection (1).

- 677 (7) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the 678 [Department of Transportation] department shall: 679 (a) subject to the restriction in Subsection (8), set maximum rates that: 680 (i) a tow truck motor carrier may charge for the tow truck service of a vehicle, vessel, 681 or outboard motor that are transported in response to: 682 (A) a peace officer dispatch call; 683 (B) a motor vehicle division call; and 684 (C) any other call or request where the owner of the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor 685 has not consented to the removal; and (ii) an impound vard may charge for the storage of a vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor 686 687 stored as a result of one of the conditions listed under Subsection (7)(a)(i); 688 (b) establish authorized towing certification requirements, not in conflict with federal law, related to incident safety, clean-up, and hazardous material handling: 689 690 (c) specify the form and content of the posting and disclosure of fees and rates charged 691 and acceptable forms of payment by a tow truck motor carrier or impound yard; 692 (d) set a maximum rate for an administrative fee that a tow truck motor carrier may 693 charge for reporting the removal as required under Subsection (1)(a)(i) and providing notice of 694 the removal to each party described in Subsection 41-6a-1406(5)(a) with an interest in the 695 vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor as required in Subsection (1)(b); and 696 (e) establish a Utah Consumer Bill of Rights Regarding Towing form that contains 697 specific information regarding: (i) a vehicle owner's rights and responsibilities if the owner's vehicle is towed; 698 699 (ii) identifies the maximum rates that a tow truck motor carrier may charge for the tow 700 truck service of a vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor that is transported in response to a call or 701 request where the owner of the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor has not consented to the 702 removal; and 703 (iii) identifies the maximum rates that an impound yard may charge for the storage of 704 vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor that is transported in response to a call or request where the 705 owner of the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor has not consented to the removal.
  - (8) An impound yard may not charge a fee for the storage of an impounded vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor if:

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708 (a) the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor is being held as evidence; and 709 (b) the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor is not being released to a party described in 710 Subsection 41-6a-1406(5)(a), even if the party satisfies the requirements to release the vehicle. 711 vessel, or outboard motor under Section 41-6a-1406. 712 (9) (a) (i) A tow truck motor carrier may charge a rate up to the maximum rate set by 713 the department in rules made under Subsection (7). 714 [<del>(9)</del>] (ii) In addition to the maximum rates established under Subsection (7) and when 715 receiving payment by credit card, a tow truck operator, a tow truck motor carrier, or an 716 impound yard may charge a credit card processing fee of 3% of the transaction total. 717 (b) A tow truck motor carrier may not be required to maintain insurance coverage at a 718 higher level than required in rules made pursuant to Subsection (7). 719 (10) When a tow truck motor carrier or impound lot is in possession of a vehicle, 720 vessel, or outboard motor as a result of a tow service that was performed without the consent of the owner, and that was not ordered by a peace officer or a person acting on behalf of a law 721 722 enforcement agency, the tow truck motor carrier or impound yard shall make personnel 723 available: 724 (a) by phone 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and 725 (b) to release the impounded vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor to the owner within 726 one hour of when the owner calls the tow truck motor carrier or impound yard. 727 Section 6. Section **72-9-604** is amended to read: 72-9-604. Preemption of local authorities -- Tow trucks. 728 729 (1) (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a political subdivision of this state may neither enact nor enforce any ordinance, regulation, or rule pertaining to a tow truck motor 730 731 carrier, tow truck operator, or tow truck that conflicts with: 732 (i) any provision of this part; 733 (ii) Section 41-6a-1401: 734 (iii) Section 41-6a-1407; or 735 (iv) rules made by the department under this part.

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(b) A county or municipal legislative governing body may not charge a fee for the

storage of an impounded vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor if the county or municipality:

(i) is holding the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor as evidence; and

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739	(ii) will not release the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor to the registered owner, lien
740	holder, or the owner's agent even if the registered owner, lien holder, or the owner's agent
741	satisfies the requirements to release the vehicle, vessel, or outboard motor under Section
742	41-6a-1406.
743	(2) A tow truck motor carrier that has a county or municipal business license for a
744	$\hat{H} \rightarrow [f]$ place of business $[f]$ eentral office] $\leftarrow \hat{H}$ located within that county or municipality may not
744a	be
745	required to obtain another business license in order to perform a tow truck service in another
746	county or municipality if there is not a $\hat{H} \rightarrow [f]$ business location $[f] \leftarrow \hat{H}$ in the other
746a	county or
747	municipality.
748	(3) A county or municipal legislative or governing body may not require a tow truck
749	motor carrier, tow truck, or tow truck operator that has been issued a current, authorized towing
750	certificate by the department, as described in Section 72-9-602, to obtain an additional towing
751	certificate.
752	(4) A county or municipal legislative body may require an annual tow truck safety
753	inspection in addition to the inspections required under Sections 53-8-205 and 72-9-602 if:
754	(a) no fee is charged for the inspection; and
755	(b) the inspection complies with federal motor carrier safety regulations.
756	(5) A tow truck shall be subject to only one annual safety inspection under Subsection
757	(4)(b). A county or municipality that requires the additional annual safety inspection shall
758	accept the same inspection performed by another county or municipality.
759	$\hat{S} \rightarrow [\underline{(6)} \ \hat{H} \rightarrow [\underline{A}] \ \underline{Beginning on January 1, 2021, a} \leftarrow \hat{H} \ \underline{political subdivision or state agency}$
759a1	<u>may</u>
759a	not charge an applicant a fee or charge
<b>760</b>	related to dispatch costs in order to be part of the towing rotation. (6) (a) Beginning on July 1,
760a	2021, a political subdivision or state agency may not charge an applicant a fee or charge
760b	related to dispatch costs in order to be part of the towing rotation of that political subdivision
760c	or state agency.
760d	(b) In addition to the fees set by the department in rules made in accordance with
760e	Subsection 72-9-603(7), a tow truck motor carrier may charge a fee to cover the costs of a
760f	dispatch charge described in Subsection (6)(a).
760g	(c) The amount of the fee described in Subsection (6)(b) may not exceed the amount
760h	charged to the tow truck motor carrier by the political subdivision or state agency for dispatch
760i	services.

January 1, 2019, may not charge a dispatch fee described in Subsection (6)(a). ←Ŝ♥

(d) A political subdivision or state agency that does not charge a dispatch fee as of

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761	(7) A towing entity may not require a tow truck operator who has received an
762	authorized towing certificate from the department to submit additional criminal background
763	check information for inclusion of the tow truck motor carrier on a rotation.
763a	$\hat{H} \rightarrow (8)$ If a tow truck motor carrier is dispatched as part of a towing rotation, the tow truck
763b	operator that responds may not respond to the location in a tow truck that is owned by a tow
763c	truck motor carrier that is different than the tow truck motor carrier that was dispatched. $\leftarrow$ $\hat{H}$
764	Section 7. Section <b>72-9-607</b> is enacted to read:
765	72-9-607. Required process before removal from towing rotation.
766	(1) Each political subdivision or state agency that establishes a towing rotation to
767	facilitate tows initiated by the political subdivision or state agency shall establish a policy for
768	an appeals process to hear and decide appeals from a decision to suspend or remove a tow truck
769	motor carrier or tow truck operator from a towing rotation.

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770	(2) In conducting an appeal as described in Subsection (1):
771	(a) the appeal process may be conducted by a single appeal officer or a panel; and
772	(b) an individual hearing an appeal, whether as a single appeal officer or as part of a
773	panel, may not be the same individual who made the decision to suspend or remove the tow
774	truck motor carrier or tow truck operator from the towing rotation.